

Appl. No. 10/796,449

Reply to Notice of Non-Complaint Amendment of December 27, 2005

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

Claims 1-3 (cancelled).

Claim 4 (currently amended): An information processing apparatus utilizing encrypted content in accordance with a usage content, comprising:

receipt means for receiving the content, a usage control policy including a plurality of usage contents each of which defines a predefined way the content is used, and a price tag including a plurality of prices each of which corresponds to the predefined way;

storage means for storing the content, the usage control policy and the price tag;

control means for determining whether a usage control status exists in the storage means;

first generation means for generating a the usage control status, whether the usage control status exists or not in the storage means, including a usage content which is selected by the user, a price corresponding to the usage content, and a purchase history of the content based on the usage control policy and the price tag;

setting means for setting a usage history based on usage of the content to the usage control status;

putting means for putting a limit on selecting a usage content based on the purchase history or the usage history when selecting a usage content which is not included in the originally received usage control policy and does not have a corresponding price in the originally received price tag;

second generation means for calculating an accounting price and generating accounting information including the accounting price based on the purchase history or usage history; and

sending means for sending the accounting information.

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Claim 5 (currently amended): An information processing method utilizing encrypted content in accordance with a usage content, comprising the steps of:

receiving the content, a usage control policy including a plurality of usage contents each of which defines a predefined way the content is used, and a price tag including a plurality of prices each of which corresponds to the predefined way;

storing in a storage means the content, the usage control policy and the price tag;

determining whether a usage control status exists in the storage means;

generating a the usage control status, whether the usage control status exists or not in the storage means, including a usage content which is selected by the user, a price corresponding to the usage content, and a purchase history of the content based on the usage control policy and the price tag;

setting a usage history based on usage of the content to the usage control status;

putting a limit on selecting a usage content based on the purchase history or the usage history when selecting a usage content which is not included in the originally received usage control policy and does not have a corresponding price in the originally received price tag;

calculating an accounting price and generating accounting information including the accounting price based on the purchase history or usage history; and

sending the accounting information.

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Claim 6 (currently amended): A distribution medium providing a computer-readable program for utilizing encrypted content in accordance with a usage content in an information processing apparatus, the program comprising the process of:

receiving the content, a usage control policy including a plurality of usage contents each of which defines a predefined way the content is used, and a price tag including a plurality of prices each of which corresponds to the predefined way;

storing in a storage means the content, the usage control policy and the price tag;

determining whether a usage control status exists in the storage means;

generating the a usage control status, whether the usage control status exists or not in the storage means, including a usage content which is selected by the user, a price corresponding to the usage content, and a purchase history of the content based on the usage control policy and the price tag;

setting a usage history based on usage of the content to the usage control status;

putting a limit on selecting a usage content based on the purchase history or the usage history when selecting a usage content which is not included in the originally received usage control policy and does not have a corresponding price in the originally received price tag;

calculating an accounting price and generating accounting information including the accounting price based on the purchase history or usage history; and

sending the accounting information.